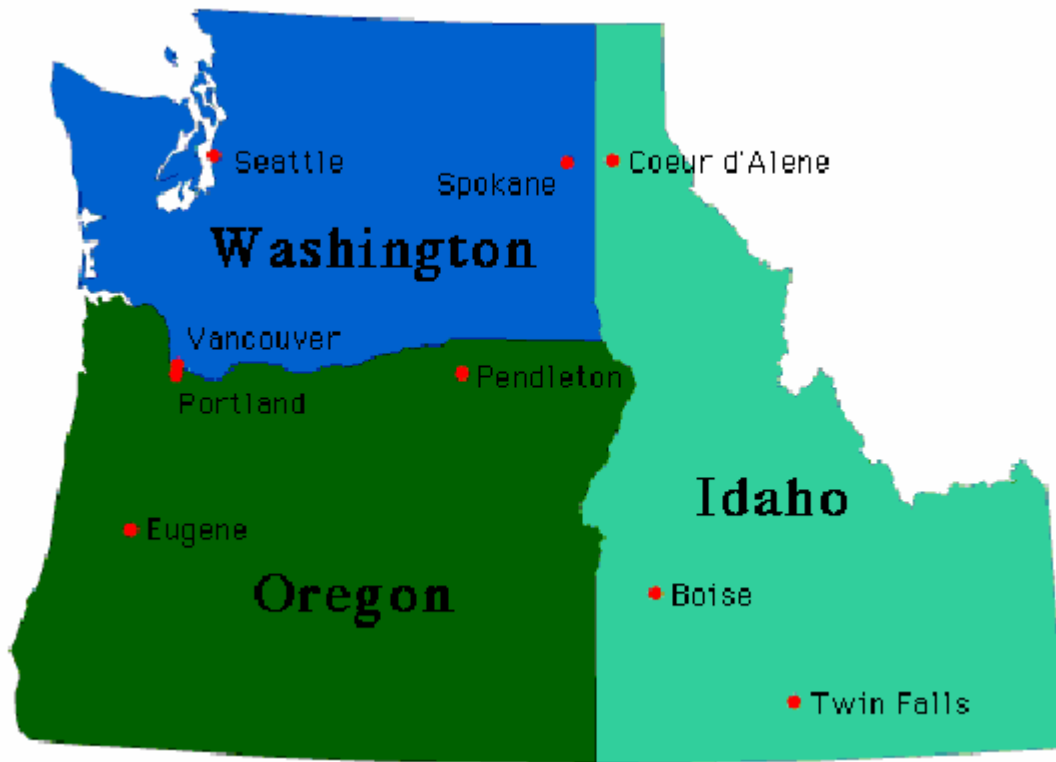


ALFALFA HAY

2005 YEAR-TO-DATE



WASHINGTON –OREGON - IDAHO MARKET SUMMARY

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Foreword

This publication summarizes alfalfa hay market information for principle producing and feeding areas of Washington, Oregon and Idaho.



**Agricultural Marketing Service
Livestock & Grain Market News
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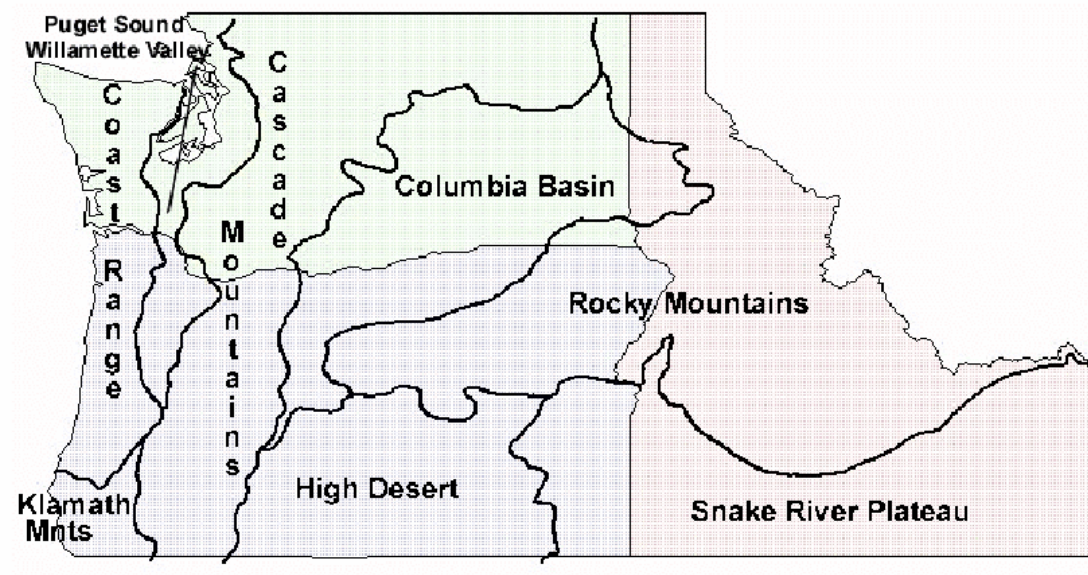
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Hay Quality Guidelines for Nationwide Market News Reporting

Livestock and Grain Market News branch has revised the hay quality guidelines for use in the nationwide Market News reporting program. These revised guidelines establish specific objective measurements of value attributes for each quality category of Alfalfa hay. The revised guidelines include all parameters commonly used to measure hay quality and also have all parameters in proper relationship to each other.

Nationwide uniformity of price information is the goal of revising these guidelines for quality designations. It is important for hay buyers in any part of the United States to be able to read any of USDA's hay reports and know the hay prices quoted are consistent from area to area for quality. So that producers and buyers from different areas, can be talking about hay in the report and feel confident they are talking about the same quality.

Market News reporters from several states formed the task force that collected information and input from hay and forage industry representatives, that information was used to form the revised quality designations and parameters numbers associated with each of the quality designations. USDA and State Departments of Agriculture market news reporters will be using the revised guidelines in market reporting across the country.

The following are the revised national hay guidelines on Alfalfa. Guidelines are also included for Grass Hay. Reporters will be using test parameter(s) prominent in their trade area, **visual characteristics**, as well as the **intent of sale (usage)** to determine hay quality.

Table 1: Alfalfa guidelines (for domestic livestock use and not more than 10% grass)

<u>Quality</u>	<u>ADF</u>	<u>NDF</u>	<u>*RFV</u>	<u>**TDN-100%</u>	<u>**TDN-90%</u>	<u>CP</u>
<u>Supreme</u>	<u><27</u>	<u><34</u>	<u>>185</u>	<u>>62</u>	<u>>55.9</u>	<u>>22</u>
<u>Premium</u>	<u>27-29</u>	<u>34-36</u>	<u>170-185</u>	<u>60.5-62</u>	<u>54.5-55.9</u>	<u>20-22</u>
<u>Good</u>	<u>29-32</u>	<u>36-40</u>	<u>150-170</u>	<u>58-60</u>	<u>52.5-54.5</u>	<u>18-20</u>
<u>Fair</u>	<u>32-35</u>	<u>40-44</u>	<u>130-150</u>	<u>56-58</u>	<u>50.5-52.5</u>	<u>16-18</u>
<u>Utility</u>	<u>>35</u>	<u>>44</u>	<u><130</u>	<u><56</u>	<u><50.5</u>	<u><16</u>

*RFV calculated using the Wis/Minn formula. **TDN calculated using the western formula. Quantitative factors are approximate, and many factors can affect feeding value. Values based on 100 % dry matter (TDN showing both 100% & 90%). Guidelines are to be used with visual appearance and intent of sale (usage).

Table 2: Grass Hay guidelines

<u>Quality</u>	<u>Crude Protein Percent</u>
<u>Premium</u>	<u>Over 13</u>
<u>Good</u>	<u>9-13</u>
<u>Fair</u>	<u>5-9</u>
<u>Utility</u>	<u>Under 5</u>

Quantitative factors are approximate, and many factors can affect feeding value. Values based on 100% dry matter.

End usage may influence hay price or value more than testing results.

Hay Quality Designation's physical descriptions:

Supreme: Very early maturity, pre bloom, soft fine stemmed, extra leafy. Factors indicative of very high nutritive content. Hay is excellent color and free of damage.

Premium: Early maturity, i.e., pre-bloom in legumes and pre head in grass hays, extra leafy and fine stemmed-factors indicative of a high nutritive content. Hay is green and free of damage.

Good: Early to average maturity, i.e., early to mid-bloom in legumes and early head in grass hays, leafy, fine to medium stemmed, free of damage other than slight discoloration.

Fair: Late maturity, i.e., mid to late-bloom in legumes, head-in grass hays, moderate or below leaf content, and generally coarse stemmed. Hay may show light damage.

Utility: Hay in very late maturity, such as mature seed pods in legumes or mature head in grass hays, coarse stemmed. This category could include hay discounted due to excessive damage and heavy weed content or mold. Defects will be identified in market reports when using this category.



ALFALFA HAY PRICES – NET TO GROWERS**Monthly Averages of Weekly Quotations****Dollars per ton****Washington – Oregon Columbia Basin 2005**

QUALITY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
2-3 Tie													
Supreme	---	---	---	---	133.75								133.75
Premium	115.00	---	---	115.00	115.00								115.00
Good	107.27	110.00	---	110.00	---								108.06
Fair	---	---	---	---	---								---
Oat Hay	---	---	---	---	---								---
PremExport	121.67	---	115.90	113.16	120.76								116.94
GoodExport	107.14	---	---	95.00	---								96.81
Big Bales													
Supreme	125.00	---	---	115.83	135.00								124.20
Premium	111.43	105.32	115.00	112.72	120.06								111.71
Good	99.74	90.71	100.42	106.74	---								97.81
Fair	75.70	75.40	---		---								75.48
Oat Hay	70.00	---	---		---								70.00
PremExport	106.62	95.00	105.00	107.37	---								105.19
GoodExport	92.83	100.00	100.52	97.88	105.00								97.97



ALFALFA HAY PRICES – NET TO GROWERS**Monthly Averages of Weekly Quotations****Dollars per ton****Oregon – Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson, Wasco Counties 2005**

QUALITY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
2-3 Tie													
Supreme	---	---	---	---	---								---
Premium	---	---	---	---	120.00								120.00
Good	---	---	90.00	---	85.00								88.85
Fair	---	---	---	---	---								---
Oat Hay	---	---	---	---	---								---
PremExport	---	---	---	---	---								---
GoodExport	---	---	---	---	---								---
Big Bales													
Supreme	---	---	---	---	---								---
Premium	---	112.39	110.00	---	---								112.10
Good	---	95.00	95.00	90.00	---								91.16
Oat Hay	---	---	---	---	---								---
PremExport	---	95.00	---	95.00	---								95.00
GoodExport	---	85.00	---	---	---								85.00

ALFALFA HAY PRICES – NET TO GROWERS**Monthly Averages of Weekly Quotations****Dollars per ton****Oregon – Lake County 2005**

QUALITY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
2-3 Tie													
Supreme	---	---	135.00	133.94	135.00								134.43
Premium	100.00	120.00	---	120.00	135.00								114.07
Good	80.00	---	100.00	90.00	---								86.00
Fair	---	---	---	---	---								---
Oat Hay	---	---	---	---	---								---
Prem Export	---	135.00	135.00	---	---								135.00
Good Export	---	---	---	---	---								---
Big Bales													
Supreme	130.00	135.00	130.85	135.00	135.00								132.30
Premium	---	110.00	---	110.00	120.00								113.00
Good	95.00	---	---	---	---								95.00
Fair	---	---	---	---	---								---
Oat Hay	---	---	---	80.00	---								80.00

ALFALFA HAY PRICES – NET TO GROWERS**Monthly Averages of Weekly Quotations****Dollars per ton****Oregon – Harney County 2005**

QUALITY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
2-3 Tie													
Supreme	---	---	---	---	---								---
Premium	---	---	---	---	---								---
Good	---	---	---	---	---								---
Fair	75.00	---	---	---	---								75.00
Big Bales													
Supreme	---	---	120.00	---	---								120.00
Premium	114.43	115.00	---	---	---								114.59
Good	80.00	---	---	---	---								80.00
Fair	70.00	---	---	---	---								70.00
Oat Hay	---	---	---	---	---								---

ALFALFA HAY PRICES – NET TO GROWERS**Monthly Averages of Weekly Quotations****Dollars per ton****Eastern Oregon – Baker, Malheur and Wallowa Counties 2005**

QUALITY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
2-3 Tie													
Supreme	---	---	---	---	---								---
Premium	---	---	---	---	---								---
Good	---	---	---	---	---								---
Fair	---	---	---	70.00	---								70.00
Oat Hay	---	---	---	---	---								---
PremExport	---	---	---	---	---								---
GoodExport	---	---	---	---	---								---
Big Bales													
Supreme	---	---	---	---	---								---
Premium	100.00	---	---	---	---								100.00
Good	---	---	---	85.00	---								85.00
Fair	66.98	71.05	---	75.00	---								68.45
Oat Hay	---	---	---	---	---								---
PremExport	---	75.00	---	---	---								75.00
GoodExport	83.83	79.70	---	---	---								80.97

ALFALFA HAY PRICES – NET TO GROWERS**Monthly Averages of Weekly Quotations****Dollars per ton****Southern Oregon – Klamath Basin 2005**

QUALITY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
2-3 Tie													
Supreme	---	145.00	127.00	136.38	130.00								135.31
Premium	115.47	121.19	115.00	110.00	---								118.66
Good	111.08	---	---	---	---								111.08
Fair	---	---	---	---	---								---
Oat Hay	85.00	---	---	---	---								85.00
PremExport	---	128.48	---	---	---								128.48
GoodExport	---	---	---	---	---								---
Big Bales													
Supreme	---	---	---	115.00	---								115.00
Premium	113.08	---	115.00	---	110.00								111.00
Good	100.00	104.61	100.00	---	---								102.50
Fair	75.00	---	---	---	---								75.00
Oat Hay	80.00	---	---	---	---								80.00



ALFALFA HAY PRICES – NET TO GROWERS**Monthly Averages of Weekly Quotations****Dollars per ton****Idaho 2005**

QUALITY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
2-3 Tie													
Supreme	---	---	---	---	---								---
Premium	---	---	---	---	---								---
Good	---	85.00	---	---	---								85.00
Fair	---	80.00	---	---	---								80.00
Big Bales													
Supreme	122.23	126.51	114.21	110.00	---								119.91
Premium	103.99	108.03	99.38	110.00	---								103.19
Good	78.60	77.00	85.69	82.53	---								81.61
Fair	65.87	67.28	69.45	72.47	---								67.86
Oat Hay	---	55.00	---	---	---								55.00
Good Export	75.75	85.00	---	85.00	---								79.07

EXPORTS OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE BY COMMODITY

2005

ALFALFA HAY (Double Compressed)

From California Ports

From Oregon-Washington Ports

	Japan	S Tons	Other Countries	S Tons	Japan	S Tons	Other Countries	S Tons	TOTAL
January	4,742	5,227	547	603	7,946	8,759	481	530	15,119
February	3,501	3,859	0	0	7,465	8,229	896	988	13,075
March	3,969	4,375	180	198	8,744	9,639	1,147	1,264	15,476
April		0		0		0		0	0
May		0		0		0		0	0
June		0		0		0		0	0
July		0		0		0		0	0
August		0		0		0		0	0
September		0		0		0		0	0
October		0		0		0		0	0
November		0		0		0		0	0
December		0		0		0		0	0
Cumulative	12,212	13,461	727	801	24,155	26,626	2,524	2,782	43,671

Source: United States Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census Note: Cumulative totals may not be exact due to rounding.

ALFALFA CUBES (Suncured & Dehydrated)

From California Ports

From Oregon-Washington Ports

	Japan	S Tons	Other Countries	S Tons	Japan	S Tons	Other Countries	S Tons	TOTAL
January	1,764	1,944	0	0	850	937	589	649	3,531
February	1,192	1,314	0	0	841	927	296	326	2,567
March	1,881	2,073	0	0	950	1,047	677	746	3,867
April		0		0		0		0	0
May		0		0		0		0	0
June		0		0		0		0	0
July		0		0		0		0	0
August		0		0		0		0	0
September		0		0		0		0	0
October		0		0		0		0	0
November		0		0		0		0	0
December		0		0		0		0	0
Cumulative	4,837	5,332	0	0	2,641	2,911	1,562	1,722	9,965

Source: United States Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census Note: Cumulative totals may not be exact due to rounding.

OTHER HAY (Double Compressed)

From California Ports

From Oregon-Washington Ports

	Japan	S Tons	Other Countries	S Tons	Japan	S Tons	Other Countries	S Tons	TOTAL
January	54,019	59,545	18,459	20,347	106,386	117,269	30,649	33,784	230,946
February	44,247	48,773	21,016	23,166	90,322	99,562	31,534	34,760	206,261
March	54,442	60,011	21,863	24,100	105,847	116,675	38,195	42,102	242,888
April		0		0		0		0	0
May		0		0		0		0	0
June		0		0		0		0	0
July		0		0		0		0	0
August		0		0		0		0	0
September		0		0		0		0	0
October		0		0		0		0	0
November		0		0		0		0	0
December		0		0		0		0	0
Cumulative	152,708	168,330	61,338	67,613	302,555	333,506	100,378	110,647	680,096

Source: United States Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census Note: Cumulative totals may not be exact due to rounding.